## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A catheter packing device, comprising:

a tubular body having a passageway extending therethrough and having a proximal section and a distal section, said proximal section having a substantially oval cross section; and

a resilient member coupled to said tubular body and projecting into said passageway to impede movement through said passageway.

2. A device according to claim 1 wherein said distal end has a substantially circular cross section.

3. A device according to claim 2 wherein said tubular body has first and second slots in a wall thereof to form said resilient member, at least a portion of the region of said wall between said first and second slots extending into said passageway.

4. A device according to claim 3 wherein said resilient member has first and second ends coupled to said tubular wall.

5. A device according to claim 4 further comprising a first protrusion on said resilient member and extending into said passageway.

6. A device according to claim 5 wherein said distal section is configured for coupling to a coiled catheter packaging hoop.

7. A device according to claim 6 further comprising a clip fixedly coupled to said distal section for securing a coil of the packaging hoop.

8. A device according to claim 7 wherein said clip comprises at least one substantially semi-cylindrical groove for receiving a coil of the packaging hoop therein.

9. An assembly for packaging a catheter having a flexible distal shaft and a proximal fitting coupled thereto, the assembly comprising:

a flexible tube capable of being coiled and having a proximal end;

a tubular retainer having a passageway extending therethrough and having a proximal section and a distal section, said distal section for matingly receiving the proximal end of said flexible tube, said proximal section being configured to prevent twisting of the fitting; and

a resilient member coupled to a wall of said retainer and projecting into said passageway for controllable impeding movement through said passageway.

10. An assembly according to claim 9 wherein said proximal section is substantially oval and configured to matingly receive said fitting and prevent it from twisting.

11. An assembly according to claim 10 wherein said retainer has first and second slots in the wall thereof to form said resilient member, the region of said wall between said first and second slots extending into said passageway.

12. An assembly according to claim 11 wherein said resilient member has first and second ends coupled to said tubular wall.

13. An assembly according to claim 12 further comprising a first protrusion on said resilient member and extending into said passageway.

14. An assembly according to claim 13 further comprising a clip fixedly coupled to said distal section for securing a coil of the flexible tube.

15. An assembly according to claim 14 wherein said clip comprises at least one semi-cylindrical groove for receiving therein the flexible tube.

16. A catheter assembly, comprising;

an elongate flexible catheter having a proximal shaft and a distal shaft and a first lumen and a second lumen extending therethrough, said first lumen being open at the

distal end of said flexible catheter shaft and being sized and shaped to slidably receive a guidewire;

a longitudinal guide way formed in said proximal shaft to enable transverse access to said first lumen through said proximal shaft, the guide way extending along a major portion of the length of said proximal shaft from a location adjacent a proximal end of said proximal shaft to a distal terminal end proximal of a distal end of said proximal shaft;

a stop member located on said proximal shaft at said distal terminal end of the guide wire;

a guide member mounted on said proximal shaft and having a catheter passageway extending therethrough for slidably receiving the catheter shaft and a guide wire passageway extending therethrough for slidably receiving the guide wire, said guide member for merging the guide wire and said catheter by guiding the guide wire transversely through said guide way and into said first lumen and for separating the guide wire and said catheter by guiding the guide wire transversely out of said first lumen through said guide way;

a catheter packaging hoop of a coiled tubing having a proximal end; and

a catheter packaging component secured to said proximal end of said coiled tubing for receiving the guide member therein, said packaging component comprising:

a tubular retainer having a passageway extending therethrough and having a substantially oval proximal section and a substantially circular distal section, said substantially distal section for fittingly receiving the proximal end of said packaging hoop; and

a resilient member coupled to a wall of said retainer and projecting into said passageway for controllably impeding movement through said passageway.

17. An assembly according to claim 16 wherein said catheter includes a fitting coupled to its proximal end and wherein said oval proximal section is configured to matingly receive said fitting and prevent it from twisting.

18. An assembly according to claim 17 wherein said retainer has first and second slots in a wall thereof to form said resilient member, the region of said wall between said first and second slots extending into said passageway.

19. An assembly according to claim 18 wherein said resilient member has first and second ends coupled to said tubular wall.

20. An assembly according to claim 19 further comprising a first protrusion on said resilient member and extending into said passageway.

21. An assembly according to claim 20 further comprising a clip fixedly coupled to said distal section for securing the flexible tube.

22. An assembly according to claim 21 wherein said clip comprises at least one semi-cylindrical groove for receiving the flexible tube therein.